

Applicant: McCartney, James I.
Serial No.: 10/604,215
Page 2

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A high volume mailing error detection system for processing a mail piece, the mail piece having associated therewith mail piece bar code information, the system comprising:

optical detector for obtaining an image of the mail piece information;

a mail piece mover for moving bulk mail including the mail piece through the system;

and

means for comparing the bar code image with a database for detecting bar code errors concerning the mail piece bar code information, wherein the mail piece information includes a bar code and the database comprises a data set of post office physical specifications, where the post office specifications include specifications regarding the legibility of bar codes;

means for generating a sampling error report; and

certification of the sampling comparisons and error rate for all functions base upon the sampling error report.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the database comprises a data set of data sent to a printer head, wherein the printer head placed at least a portion of the mail piece information on the mail piece.

Applicant: McCartney, James I.
Serial No.: 10/604,215
Page 3

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The system of claim 3, wherein the database further comprises an updated residency database.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A large volume error detection mailing system for sampling bar code errors in a piece of mail, the mail piece having associated therewith mail piece bar code information, the system comprising:

an optical image detection for capturing an image of the mail piece bar code information;

a bulk mail mover for moving the piece of mail at least partway through the system; and

means for comparing the bar code image to at least one database, including:

data correlated to the bar code information on the piece of mail; and

data corresponding to post office bar code specifications for a piece of mail,

where the post office specifications include specifications regarding the legibility of bar codes;

means for generating a sampling error report; and

certification of the sampling comparisons and error rate for all functions base upon the

Applicant: McCartney, James I.
Serial No.: 10/604,215
Page 4

sampling error report.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for the in-house bar code error detection of a large volume of mail, comprising the steps of:

obtaining bar code data associated with a piece of mail;

performing an error detection check on the mail piece bar code data, where the step of performing an error detection check includes the additional steps of

comparing the optically captured image to post office bar code specifications; and

comparing the optical bar code image to the bar code information intended to be printed on the piece of mail; and

generating a an error sampling report including an error rate relating to the step of performing bar code error detection check; and

certifying the steps of comparing and the error rate based on the sampling report.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the error detection report allows the user of the method to bypass at least a portion of the post office mail piece error detection methods.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of obtaining data includes the step of optically obtaining an image of the address data.

Applicant: McCartney, James I.
Serial No.: 10/604,215
Page 5

11. (Cancelled)
12. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of activating an alarm when the mail piece fails the error detection check.
13. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of activating an alarm when inaccuracy of the information on a plurality of mail pieces reaches a predetermined number.
14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the alarm is audible.
15. (Currently Amended) A system for accurately reading an image and data associated with a piece of mail, comprising:
 - a computer having an original database for printing information on a piece of mail;
 - a printer for printing the information on a piece of mail using the original database;
 - a reader of an image of the information printed on the piece of mail; **and**
 - means for comparing the image obtained from the reader with the original database and a second database;
 - means for generating a sampling error report; and
 - certification of the sampling comparisons and error rate for all functions base upon the sampling error report.

Applicant: McCartney, James I.
Serial No.: 10/604,215
Page 6

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the second database includes post office physical specifications.
17. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the second database includes updated residency information from the post office.
18. (Original) The system of claim 15, further comprising a strobe light for illuminating the piece of mail for the reader.
19. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the strobe light has a variable frequency strobe.